

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Pursuant to the revised 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-183. (Canceled)

184. (Currently Amended) An isolated or recombinant polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide induces proliferation of T cells in the presence of a mature polypeptide region of a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12, and wherein the polypeptide comprises a sequence that is at least 95% identical to the full length of the mature polypeptide region domain of SEQ ID NO:8.

185. (Currently Amended) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 184, wherein the mature polypeptide region domain of SEQ ID NO:8 comprises amino acid residues 23-324 of SEQ ID NO:8.

186. (Currently Amended) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 184, wherein the polypeptide comprises a sequence that is at least 97% identical to the full length of the mature polypeptide region domain of SEQ ID NO:8.

187. (Currently Amended) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 186, wherein the polypeptide comprises the mature polypeptide region domain of SEQ ID NO:8.

188. (Currently Amended) An isolated or recombinant polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide induces proliferation of T cells in the presence of a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12, and wherein the polypeptide comprises a sequence that is at least 95% identical to the full length of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

189. (Currently Amended) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 188, wherein the polypeptide comprises a sequence that is at least 97% identical to the full length of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

190. (Previously Presented) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 189, wherein the polypeptide comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

191-200. (Canceled)

201. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 184 and a carrier.

202-203. (Canceled)

204. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 201, further comprising a mature polypeptide region of a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12.

205-206. (Canceled)

207. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 201, wherein the carrier is a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

208. (Currently Amended) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 184, wherein the polypeptide induces a 4-fold increase in the proliferation of T cells in the presence of the mature polypeptide region of the p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12 compared to the proliferation of T cells induced by a mature polypeptide region of a p40 polypeptide

subunit of human interleukin-12 in the presence of the mature polypeptide region of the p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12.

209. (New) The isolated or recombinant polypeptide of claim 188, wherein the polypeptide induces a 4-fold increase in the proliferation of T cells in the presence of the p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12 compared to the proliferation of T cells induced by a p40 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12 in the presence of the p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12.

210. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 188 and a carrier.

211. (New) The composition of claim 210, further comprising a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12.

212. (New) The composition of claim 211, wherein the carrier is a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

213. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 208 and a carrier.

214. (New) The composition of claim 213, further comprising a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12.

215. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 209 and a carrier.

216. (New) The composition of claim 215, further comprising a p35 polypeptide subunit of human interleukin-12.